

PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: LIAMOS ET AL. Examiner: M. PATEL
Serial No.: 10/033,575 Group Art Unit: 3761
Confirmation No.: 9713
Filed: DECEMBER 28, 2001 Docket No.: 12008.42USC1
Title: SMALL VOLUME IN VITRO ANALYTE SENSOR AND METHODS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d): The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on December 10, 2002.

By:

Name: Mara E. Liepa

THIRD PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to Examination of this application, please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims

Please replace claims 23, 26 and 40 with the following rewritten claims.

23. (Amended) An operative combination for use in measuring bioanalyte in a sample; the combination comprising:

- (a) a sensor strip; the sensor strip comprising:
 - (i) a substrate having a first end, a second end opposite the first end, a first side edge extending between the first end and second end, and a second side edge, opposite the first side edge and extending between the first end and second end;
 - (A) the substrate first end sized for insertion into an electrical connector;
 - (ii) a sample chamber positioned between the first and second ends;